

1167

DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION SECRET	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER
TO	Chief, Western Hemisphere Division		
INFO	[REDACTED]		
FROM	Chief of Station, Santiago		
SUBJECT	[REDACTED]		
1. During the next several months as the 1970 presidential campaign begins in earnest there will be a strong temptation to prognosticate, predicate, crystal ball, etc. Already we see tendencies in this direction on the part of [REDACTED]. The Station considers this practice, for the time being at least, risky at best and possibly highly misleading. Accordingly, so far as possible, the Station shall refrain from the practice and content itself with reporting facts and, on occasion, its sources interpretation of these facts. 2. Roughly speaking there are six months until the election, and although the three major candidates are now formally inscribed and an alliance of sorts has been forged by the left, we believe it will be at least mid-April until the campaign begins to take a definite tone and direction. There are still many major questions to be answered. Will Frei use the powerful machinery of his government to support Tomic? Will the "Unidad Popular" manage to remain together given the centrifugal forces and internal frictions involved? Will there be some transcendent issue, unforeseen at present, which changes the entire thrust of the campaign? These are but a few of the many possibilities. 3. While we shall continue to restrain the natural tendency to predict until more data is available and the future seems clearer, we will continue to comment on [REDACTED] reporting when we feel it is definitely off the track. [REDACTED] Distribution: 2 - C/WHD [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]			
[REDACTED]		DATE 13 February 1970	
[REDACTED]		CLASSIFICATION SECRET	
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